

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the previous amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-21 are pending. Claims 20 and 21 have been withdrawn. By this Amendment, Claims 2 and 4 are canceled and Claims 1, 3, 5 and 8-10 have been amended. No new matter is added by any of the amendments.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the September 19 personal interview. The substance of the discussions held are incorporated into the following remarks and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-3 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S.P. 5,041,182 to Sekiguchi et al., Claims 1-3, 10, 14 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S.P. 3,097,982 to Stoner, Claims 1-3 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S.P. 4,124,421 to Fujii, Claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sekiguchi and further in view of U.S.P. 6,565,785 to Ishikawa, Claims 12 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Stoner and further in view of U.S.P. 4,249,976 to Hudson, Claims 13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Stoner and further in view of U.S.P. 3,953,056 to Roberts, Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Stoner and further in view of U.S.P. 4,379,039 to Fujimoto et al. and Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fujii. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects Claims 2, 4, 5, 9-13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 9 has been amended to obviate this rejection. Claims 2 and 4 have been canceled. The materials that meet the limitations of Claims 13 and 17 are described in the specification at page 41, line 16 through page 43, line 1. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

As discussed during the personal interview, none of the applied references disclose a plastic substrate having a honeycomb structure with a thin wall part and a thick wall part

thicker than the thin wall part formed at an opening part of the honeycomb structure, and an escape part to which excessive portions of the plastic laminate member are moved by deforming the thin wall part according to pressure loaded at a time when mold member is pressed against the laminate member, as in amended independent Claim 1.

The remaining dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent Claim 1, and for the individual features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejections of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

GIBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

James J. Kubaski
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

JJK:MB\rle

I:\ATTY\MB\25'S\250443US\250443US-AM.DOC